

“A Really Terrific Sermon”

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This was prepared without a specific audience in mind, but with the knowledge that President Reagan not infrequently invited various groups around the United States to meet in the Indian Treaty Room of the Old Executive Office Building to be addressed by members of his administration. Many of these groups had a mission that was primarily spiritual and I was usually one of those asked to speak. The President also did his share of speaking. Parts of this speech were used several times before several groups but probably this speech was never delivered in its totality as it appears here. You'll also notice that it is left unfinished. While it was being prepared and from time to time while it was being used, it was referred to not as my speech but as “ A Really Terrific Sermon”.

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Charitable giving

Obligations to government

Obligations to self

Personal responsibility

Private sector responsibility

Rediscover America

Soaring or denigration of spirit

Voluntarism

Worth of society

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Assistant Secretary of Health

Edward Brandt

Sen. Orrin Hatch

Secretary Richard Schweiker